

PRESIDENT REPLIES TO HIS CRITICS.

Explains His Policy as to Appointments in the South—Color Should Not Be a Bar. Any More Than Is Creed or Birthplace.

Atlanta Ga., March 2.—The following letter from President Roosevelt to the editor of the Constitution, is a reply to a request for an expression concerning the recent letter from Mr. Harry Stillwell Edwards, of Macon, in which Mr. Edwards made a statement of the president's position in the matter of federal appointments in the south, holding that the president had been misunderstood. President Roosevelt writes:

Needs No Apology.

"White House, Washington, Feb. 24, 1903.—Hon. Clark Howell, Editor of the Constitution, Atlanta: Dear Mr. Howell: As to federal appointments in the south, frankly, it seems to me that my appointments speak for themselves, and that my policy is self-explanatory. So far from feeling that they need the slightest apology or justification, my position is that, on the strength of what I have done, I have the right to claim the support of all good citizens who wish not only a high standard of federal service but fair and equitable dealing to the south as well as to the north and a policy of consistent justice and good will toward all men.

"In making appointments I have sought to consider the feeling of the people of each locality, so far as I could consistently do so without sacrificing principle. The prime tests I have applied have been those of character, fitness and ability, and when I have been dissatisfied with what has been offered within party lines, I have without hesitation gone to the opposite party—and you are, of course, aware that I have repeatedly done this in your own state of Georgia.

Color Can Be No Bar.

"I certainly cannot treat mere color as a permanent bar to holding office, any more than I could so treat creed or birthplace—always provided that in other respects the applicant or incumbent is a worthy and well-behaved American citizen. Just as little will I treat it as conferring a right to hold office. I have seen sympathy with the man of mere theory who refuses to face facts, but do you not think that in the long run it is safer for everybody if we act on the motto 'all men up,' rather than on that of 'some men down'?"

Asks to Be Judged by His Acts.

"I ask you to judge not by what I say, but what during the last 17 months I have actually done. In your own state of Georgia you are competent to judge from your own experience. In the great bulk of the cases I have reappointed President McKinley's appointees. The changes I have made were, as I think you will agree, changes for the better, and not for the worse. It happens I have appointed a white man to succeed a colored man as postmaster at Athens and a colored man as postmaster at Atlanta. In South Carolina I have similarly appointed a white postmaster to succeed a colored postmaster. Again in South Carolina I have nominated a colored man to fill a vacancy in the position of collector of the port of Charleston, just as in Georgia I have reappointed the colored man who is now serving as collector of the port of Savannah. Both are fit men.

Criticism Is Absurd.

"Why the appointment of one should cause any more excitement than the appointment of the other I am wholly at a loss to imagine. I need hardly say that to connect either of these appointments, or any or all my other appointments, or my actions in upholding the

law at Indianapolis, with such questions as 'social equality' and 'negro domination' is as absurd as to connect them with the nebular hypothesis or the theory of atoms.

Has Had Good Advisers.

"I have consulted freely with your own senators and congressmen as to the character and capacity of any appointee in Georgia concerning whom there was a question. My party advisers in the state have been Maj. Hanson, of Macon, Mr. Walter Johnson, of Atlanta—both of them ex-confederate soldiers—and Mr. Harry Stillwell Edwards, also of Macon. I believe you will agree with me that in no state would it be possible to find gentlemen abler and more upright or better qualified to fill the positions they have filled with reference to me. In every instance where these gentlemen have united in making a recommendation I have been able to follow their advice.

Will Remove Unworthy Officers.

"Am I not right in saying that the federal office holders whom I have appointed throughout your state are, as a body, men and women of a high order of efficiency and integrity? If you know of any federal office holder in Georgia of whom this is not true, pray let me know at once. I will welcome testimony from you or from any other reputable citizen, which will tend to show that a given public officer is unworthy, and most emphatically short will be the shift of anyone whose lack of worth is proven.

Democrats Retained.

"Incidentally I may mention that a large percentage of the incumbents of federal offices in Georgia under me are, as I understand it, of your own political faith. But they are supported by me in every way as they continue to render good and faithful service to the public.

"This is true of your own state; and by applying to Mr. Thomas Nelson Page, of Virginia, to Gen. Basil Duke, of Kentucky; to Mr. George Crawford, of Tennessee; to Mr. John McIlheny, of Louisiana; to Judge Jones, of Alabama, and Mr. Edgar S. Wilson, of Mississippi, all of them democrats and all of them men of the highest standing in the respective communities you will find that what I have done in Georgia stands not as the exception, but as the rule for what I have done throughout the south. I have good reason to believe that my appointees in the different states mentioned—and as the sum of the parts in the whole, necessarily in the south at large—represent not merely an improvement upon those whose places they took, but upon the whole a higher standard of federal service than has hitherto been attained in the communities in question. I may add that the proportion of colored men among these new appointees is only about one in a hundred.

Pained at the Outcry.

"In view of all these facts, I have been surprised, and somewhat pained, at what seems to me the incomprehensible outcry in the south about my actions—an outcry apparently started in New York for reasons wholly unconnected with the question nominally at issue. I am concerned at the attitude thus taken by so many of the southern people; but I am not in the least angry, and still less will this attitude have the effect of making me swerve one hair's breadth, to one side or the other, from the course I have marked out—the course I have constantly followed in the past and shall consistently follow in the future.

"With regard, sincerely yours,

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

MILLIONS LOST IN A BLAZE.

Fire at Cincinnati Is Most Destructive in Its History—Losses May Reach \$2,000,000.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 27.—Over one-half of the best square block in Cincinnati was destroyed by fire this morning. The square, bounded by Walnut and Vine streets, and between Third and Fourth streets, was the site of the great portion of the city's business district. The fire broke out in the west end of the block, in the building of the Western Union Telegraph Co., and spread rapidly to the east end, where it reached the river. The fire was extinguished by 11 o'clock, but the damage was done. The loss is estimated at \$2,000,000.

FEELS END IS NEAR.

Pope Leo Talks to His Cardinals and Warns Them of His Approaching Dissolution.

Rome, March 2.—Pope Leo gave audience to 42 cardinals at the Vatican Sunday, in spite of the urgent protests of his physician. In his remarks to the cardinals the aged pontiff referred with emphasis to his approaching death. The pope's feebleness is perceptibly increasing. He realized this and he told the cardinals that he felt that God was about to call him to Himself.

Warship to Be Withdrawn.

Washington, March 2.—Upon Secretary Hay's statement that the necessity no longer existed for the presence of a United States warship in Venezuelan waters, the navy department on Monday cabled Admiral Coghlan that he might withdraw the Marietta, which has been lying off La Guayra ever since the beginning of the blockade. It is understood the admiral will order her to Culebra, the headquarters of his squadron.

Has No Opposition.

Jefferson City, Mo., March 2.—The house passed the bill introduced by Mr. Booth, of Dallas county, prohibiting the manufacture, sale or giving away of cigarettes, cigarette paper or wrappers in this state. The penalty for violation is a fine of \$5 to \$100. The bill was passed by unanimous vote.

To Delay Sending Statue.

Berlin, March 2.—Emperor William has instructed Minister von Sternberg to inform President Roosevelt that the statue of Frederick the Great will not be sent to the United States until the spring of 1904.

KNAPP'S AWFUL DEEDS.

The Wholesale Murderer Makes a Confession and Tells How He Killed His Victims.

Hamilton, O., Feb. 27.—Alfred Knapp, the Indianapolis man arrested Wednesday, who confessed to the murder of his third wife, Thursday made a full confession of five murders. Among them is that of Ida Gebhard, the West Indianapolis girl, who was found murdered and outraged in a stable, July 3, 1895.

Knapp's confession, which was sworn to before Mayor Bosch, was as follows:

"On January 21, 1894, I killed Emma Littleman in a lumber yard in East Littleton, Cincinnati. On August 1, 1894, I killed May Eckert, in Walnut street, opposite the Y. M. C. A. in Cincinnati. On August 7, 1894, I killed my wife, Jennie Connors Knapp, under the canal bridge in Liberty street, Cincinnati.



ALFRED KNAPP.

and threw her into the canal. In Indianapolis, in July, 1895, I killed Ida Gebhard. On December 22, 1902, I killed my wife, Annie Knapp, at 339 South Fourth street, in Hamilton, and threw her into the river out by Lindenwald. This is the truth.

"Alfred Knapp."

In making his confessions Knapp not only told how he killed victims, but he acted it, and when he did his face took on a look of fiendishness. His fingers drew up with tension and looked like the talons of a bird of prey. His face drew itself up into hard lines, the eyes dropped toward the nose and his nostrils were dilated and puffed long, hissing gusts of breath. His whole body became rigid, and then Knapp was ready to tell how he killed people.

"I always kill from behind," he said from between his closed teeth. "I get them in front of me. Then I clutch them by the throat, placing my knee on the back and bend them over. They struggle, but not long. They look into my face, but I don't mind that."

Hamilton, O., March 3.—Alfred Knapp was arraigned Monday in the police court for the murder of Hannah Goddard and pleaded not guilty. His sister, Mrs. Wenzel, is standing by him. The defense will be insanity.

SENATE IS SUMMONED.

Proclamation Is Issued for an Extra Session—Will Convene at Noon on March 5.

Washington, March 3.—The president Monday issued the following proclamation:

"By the President of the United States of America. A Proclamation. Whereas, public interests require that the senate should convene in extraordinary session; therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, president of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim and declare that an extraordinary occasion requires the senate of the United States to convene at the capitol in the city of Washington on the 5th day of March next, at 12 o'clock, noon, of which all persons who shall at that time be entitled to act as members of that body are hereby required to take notice.

"Given under my hand and the seal of the United States at Washington the 2nd day of March in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Three, and of the independence of the United States the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT.
"By the President: John Hay, Secretary of State."

SENATORS ELECTED AT LAST.

Deadlock in Delaware Legislature Broken and Ball and Alice Elected.

Dover, Del., March 3.—The Delaware legislature Monday afternoon ended the senatorial deadlock by electing State Senator J. Frank Allee (union republican) to the long term senatorship which expires in 1907, and Congressman Louis Heisler Ball (regular republican) to the short term, which ends in 1905. Allee was congratulated by his colleagues, and by the assembly generally. Congressman Ball was in Washington Monday.

The result is regarded here as an Addicks victory. Pressure brought to bear upon the regular republicans from Washington undoubtedly had much to do with preventing the acceptance of the democratic offer to join with the regulars to elect one regular and leave a vacancy.

Sultan's Troops Defeated.

Madrid, March 3.—A dispatch to the Imperial from Ceuta, Morocco, reiterates the report that the sultan's troops have been defeated and that War Minister Menebbi has been killed. The message does not indicate the date of the engagement or the place where the battle occurred.

British Ship Captured.

Hamburg, March 2.—The carpenter of the British ship Cambria Prince, Capt. Ows, from Coghlin, for Middlesborough, has been picked up in the North Sea. He reports that the Cambrian Prince captured and sank.

THE POPE CELEBRATES.

Magnificent Ceremonial at St. Peter's in Honor of His Coronation Twenty-Five Years Ago.

Rome, March 4.—From sunrise Tuesday all Rome was on the alert and showing most unusual animation and interest in the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the coronation of Pope Leo XIII. This movement was especially noticeable at the large hotels, which were illuminated as though for a ball.

It was calculated that there were about 75,000 people present. There were about 1,000 Americans in the tribunes and the body of the church.

After an hour of very fatiguing waiting a majestic procession began to appear. It was composed of the great dignitaries of the church, the 45 cardinals present, gorgeous in their robes, alone making a most imposing, characteristic and picturesque group. At 11 o'clock precisely the great bell of St. Peter's rang out a signal, which was followed by the clanging of the bells of about 500 churches in Rome as they sounded the announcement that the pontiff was on his way to the basilica. The life of the ancient city seemed to pause for a moment, hats were raised and the sign of the cross was made. Shortly afterwards, inside St. Peter's, silver trumpets blared out their message and the pontiff appeared. The people held their breath for a moment and then all the pent-up enthusiasm burst forth in a tremendous roar of welcome.

From his elevation on the new sedia gestatoria, carried by 12 men in costumes of red brocade, flanked by the famous flabelli (spreading feather fans) and surrounded by a white and gold canopy, the pope appeared to be more than a human being. He seemed to be a white spirit, this impression being added to by the pontiff's white robes and white mitre, delicate features, face white as alabaster and his thin hand moving slowly in benediction.

As the sweet toned, well trained voices of the Sistine choir sang "Te igitur," thousands of voices shouted "Long live Pope Leo," handkerchiefs fluttered in the air, the banners of the various societies represented were waved, and many of those present, overcome with emotion, sobbed loudly while others fainted from excess of feeling or fatigue.

When the pope arrived at the throne, the ceremony proceeded rapidly. Leaving the sedia gestatoria, the pontiff knelt and prayed, and then rose without assistance, donned the faldella and the new triple crown, and the celebration of the mass began.

At the moment of the elevation of the host a profound silence fell on the assemblage, the guards presented arms, the people knelt, where it was possible for them to do so, and from the cupola came the clear, thin sounds of silver trumpets, giving the idea of heavenly music.

The pope then administered the papal benediction and retired to a room for restoratives, prepared on purpose every time he goes to St. Peter's. There, addressing Dr. Lippini, his private physician, the pontiff said:

"You see, that after all your warnings, the ceremony did me good. What touching loyalty."

When the pope returned to the Vatican from the basilica, he resumed his place on the sedia gestatoria and was carried throughout the whole length of the cathedral, rising erect many times to bestow blessings while many princes, cardinals, diplomats and bishops bowed low and the crowd saluted him frantically. When the pontiff had departed the people immediately left St. Peter's, but as it was still raining heavily there was much difficulty and confusion in obtaining carriages. However, in three quarters of an hour the piazza was deserted.

When the pope returned to his apartments he wished to discuss the ceremony and give his impressions of it, but his physician insisted on complete quiet, on which the pontiff exclaimed: "The demonstration to-day has been so affecting. It surpassed all my expectations. I am completely satisfied. There was no note of discord."

GOOD ROADS CONGRESS.

Important Gathering to Be Held in St. Louis Beginning April 27.

Washington, March 4.—The secretary of state has advised diplomatic officials that a National and International Good Roads congress will be held in St. Louis from April 27 to May 2, 1903, under the promotion of the National Good Roads association, the office of public road inquiries of the department of agriculture, the Louisiana Purchase Exposition company, state, county and city officials, commercial bodies and railroad organizations. The chief object of the congress is to arouse special interest throughout civilized countries in the betterment of the public highways. With a view to securing the presence in the congress of the most skillful engineers and roadbuilders, the state department has been furnished copies of the official invitation, which will be extended to foreign governments with the request that they send representative delegations to the congress.

Will Lead No Bull.

Pittsburg, Mo., March 4.—William J. Bryan, in an interview, denied that he will lead a revolt from the democratic party in case the gold democrats capture the national convention, as it was reported from New York. It was said he would bolt the convention and lead an independent movement.

Aged Mason Dies.

Cumberland, Md., March 4.—Dr. Charles H. Orr, the oldest past grand master mason in the world, died Tuesday at the age of 93. He was at one time a prominent physician and was the author of several books.

IS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED.

Body Found in River, at New Albany, Proves to Be That of Hannah Goddard Knapp.

New Albany, Ind., March 4.—Treble identified by Charles Goddard, her uncle; Edward King, the brother-in-law of her husband, and Maj. George Kuemmerling, chief of police of Hamilton, O., the body of Hannah Goddard Knapp, the third wife and fifth victim of Alfred Knapp, was on Tuesday taken to Hamilton, O. Though not the slightest doubt remained in the minds of anyone concerned as to the identity of the woman found floating in the Ohio river opposite here Monday, the three men, in order to make assurance doubly sure, and to avoid any possibility of a mistake, came to New Albany. Mr. King was the first of the trio to arrive. He visited Shrader Bros., undertaking establishment, where the body lay, but was unable to recognize the features of the dead woman, but was certain the ring and earrings were those of Hannah Goddard. While Mr. King was at the undertaker's, Maj. Kuemmerling came in. He was even more positive in his identification than Mr. King, and at once set about to securing possession of the body.

Dr. W. L. Starr, the coroner, heard the testimony of the two men and returned a finding at once that the body was that of Hannah Goddard Knapp, and that she came to her death by strangulation. Shortly before one o'clock Mr. Goddard, who had been delayed in leaving Hamilton, arrived. As soon as he viewed the corpse he declared without qualification that it was that of his niece, Hannah Goddard. Not only by the jewelry and the mark on her ankle, but by a scar on the forehead, and a disfigured finger nail on her right hand was he convinced that the body was that of his own niece.

Hamilton, O., March 4.—The body of Hannah Goddard Knapp arrived here Tuesday in charge of Chief of Police Kuemmerling from New Albany, Ind., where it was found Monday. There was a large crowd of people at the station to see the body unloaded, and the more curious followed it to Wagner's morgue. The body is partly decomposed, and save for the jewelry and clothing it would have been an unrecognizable mass. Knapp knows nothing of the arrival of the body of his wife, and is taking things easy in jail.

WABASH ROAD TO FIGHT.

Will Not Grant Demands of Men and Secures an Injunction Against Interference.

St. Louis, March 4.—For the first time in the history of labor organizations in the United States an injunction has been granted restraining the ordering of an original strike. Judge Elmer B. Adams, of the United States district court on Tuesday granted the petition of President Ramsey, of the Wabash Railway company, for an injunction against the grand officers of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the grand officers of the Brotherhood of Railway Firemen, and the committee of Wabash employees restraining them from "persuading, ordering or coercing" the employees of the Wabash railway from going out on a strike.

The writ was secured by President Ramsey, of the Wabash, while the grievance committee of trainmen and firemen was awaiting his answer to their demands, which would if unfavorable cause immediate ordering of a strike.

The procedure was so unexpected and so startling that the grand officers of the labor organizations who have been directing the negotiations between President Ramsey and the wage increase committee of employees was unprepared to act. Attorneys of the two great labor organizations mentioned are on their way to St. Louis, and to-day will ask Judge Adams to dissolve the injunction.

President Ramsey at five o'clock handed to the committees representing the Brotherhood of Trainmen and Firemen his reply to their demands, which he practically refuses. This information the labor leaders telegraphed to the members of the respective orders throughout the system. They would not say what their next move would be.

OPTION IS SAFE.

Knox Secures Acceptance by Canal Company of Proposition Submitted.

Washington, March 4.—Attorney General Knox, on leaving the cabinet meeting Tuesday, announced that he had received from the Panama Canal company an acceptance of the proposal which he recently made to it with respect to the extension of the option on the canal company's property held by this government. He said that the communication from the canal company was of such a nature that the option would be kept alive until the ratification of the pending treaty—it mattered not whether the treaty was ratified before or after the conclusion of the present session of congress.

Made Chief of Police.

Cincinnati, March 4.—Col. Paul M. Milliken has been appointed chief of police of Cincinnati, to succeed the late Philip Deltsch. Milliken was city auditor, and would have been re-nominated but for this appointment. He was lieutenant colonel during the Spanish-American war and has been prominently connected for years with the Ohio national guard.

Dr. Parker's Successor Elected.

London March 4.—The members of the City Temple have elected Rev. R. J. Campbell to succeed Rev. Joseph Parker in the pastorate.

CONGRESS AND ITS WORK.

A Review of the Most Important Legislation Enacted at This Session.

Washington, March 2.—The work of this session of congress, the closing of which marks the expiration of the Fifty-seventh congress, is practically at an end, except for the passage of the appropriation bills now pending, and these are in the final stages. A limited number of other measures may be passed during the last hours, but the number will be very small.

Among the acts of this session is that creating the department of commerce and labor and adding another cabinet officer to the president's official family. That department, with George B. Cortelyou, late secretary to the president, as its head, is now in process of organization.

Another important piece of legislation enacted at this session is the anti-trust act, commonly known as the Elkins law. Another bill was passed which enables the attorney general to expedite suits brought under the Sherman anti-trust law, and incorporated in the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation act is a provision which places at the immediate disposal of the attorney general the sum of \$500,000 to better equip him for the enforcement of the anti-trust laws now existing. A further provision is made in the general deficiency bill for two assistants to the attorney general and additional clerks.

The house also passed the Littlefield anti-trust bill, which contained a publicity feature as well as an anti-rebate clause. The bill failed of passage in the senate.

One of the first acts of this session was the suspension of the tariff on coal of all kinds coming from any foreign country.

Legislation of importance to the army and navy was enacted. A general staff corps has been provided for the United States army, the duties of which are to prepare plans for the defense of the country and for the mobilization of the armies of the United States in times of war, as well as to render professional aid to the secretary of war and the general officers of the army. This measure was proposed by the secretary of war.

The militia bill, introduced by Representative Dick, of Ohio, and which passed the house during the first session, passed the senate during this session and has become a law. This act provides for the general organization of the militia of the United States and makes it available when its services may be required by the government.

The naval appropriation bill, which has passed both houses, provides for a material increase in the personnel of the navy to meet the growing demands for officers and men; also for an increase in the number of warships.

Measures of great importance to the Philippines have been adopted at this session. An appropriation of \$3,000,000 was made to relieve the distress and suffering caused by the ravages of disease among the water buffalo in the islands, upon which the natives are almost wholly dependent in the pursuit of agriculture, and distress resulting from the shortage of crops due to war and other causes. A currency system has been provided for the Philippine islands. The house passed a bill to reduce the Philippine tariff, and the senate has been urged by the president to complete that act.

The sundry civil bill soon to become a law makes appropriations for carrying forward river and harbor work and federal building construction, while the omnibus public building bill, now pending, authorizes a large number of new buildings throughout the United States.

The anarchy bill, providing for the protection of the president, has passed both houses and conferees have agreed upon it.

Among the acts of the Fifty-seventh congress which were adopted at the first session are the following:

Authorizing the construction of an isthmian canal; providing civil government for the Philippines; providing revenue for the Philippines; extending Chinese exclusion laws; repeal of war taxes; extending charters of national banks; creating a permanent census bureau; providing a system for the irrigation of the arid lands of the west; providing a consular and diplomatic service for Cuba.

Five of the general appropriation bills have been signed by the president and two others—the Indian and the army—have passed both houses. With one or two exceptions all the others have been sent to conference. Those approved are the pension, the legislative, executive and judicial, the diplomatic and consular and two urgent deficiency bills. Those in conference are the District of Columbia, the agriculture, military academy, post office, sundry civil, naval and fortification bills.

Disastrous Explosion.

Easton, Pa., March 3.—Six men are thought to be dead, and 25 or 30 others are injured, several of them seriously, from the effects of an explosion at the Edison cement plant, at New Village, N. J., seven miles from here, on the line of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad. A large part of the plant was burned.

The Public Debt.

Washington, March 3.—The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business February 28, 1903, the debt less cash in the treasury amounted to \$937,972,598, which is a decrease as compared with January 31 of \$5,969,665.

Takes His Place on Bench.

Washington, March 3.—William B. Day, the new associate justice of the United States supreme court, sat with the court for the first time Monday. The ceremony of initiation was in accordance with the usual practice of the court.